

AE big ideas

1. The need to study independent film in a sociological framework. Sociology--history (structure) plus aesthetics.
2. Sociology of the avant garde
3. Discourses on/of the avant garde
4. define terms: experimental, independent, etc.
5. national/international
6. The Greenbergian assumption that the avant garde artist's primary role is to explore the properties, potentials, and limits of the medium itself, to create knowledge about the medium (Michaelson) is to make the artist/intellectual a functional intellectual, a member of the technocratic order, to create a technocratic ideal of artistic work rather than a critical one. (Brakhage is parallel to Abstract expressionism, Frampton even more so.)